

Message Text

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ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 ARA-11 ADP-00 AID-20 EB-11 NSC-10 RSC-01

CIEP-02 SAL-01 SS-14 STR-08 OMB-01 CEA-02 CIAE-00

COME-00 FRB-02 INR-09 NSAE-00 TRSE-00 XMB-07 OPIC-12

LAB-06 SIL-01 SPM-01 L-03 H-02 NIC-01 PA-03 PRS-01

USIA-12 AF-10 EA-11 EUR-25 NEA-10 RSR-01 /212 W

----- 006954

R 23214 Z MAR 73

FM AMEMBASSY QUITO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6907

INFO AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

UNCLAS QUITO 1460

E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OCON, ECLA

SUBJECT: OPENING SESSION ECLA

1. SUMMARY: MARCH 23 AM OPENING PLENARY MEETING ECLA COVERED AGENDA ITEMS 1, 2 AND 3. OPENING ADDRESSES AND STATEMENTS WERE MADE BY SYG WALDHEIM; MARCO DEL PONT (PERUVIAN CHIEF OF DELEGATION), IN CAPACITY AS REPRESENTATIVE OF MEMBER STATES; PRESIDENT OF ECUADOR RODRIGUEZ. ELECTIONS AND ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA COMPLETED AT MORNING MEETING. END SUMMARY .

2. OPENING MEETING OF 15 TH SESSION ECLA TOOK PLACE IN LEGISLATIVE PALACE. FOLLOWING IMPRESSIVE CEREMONY CONNECTED WITH THE TNRRY INTO THE CHAMBER OF ECUADORIAN PRESIDENT RODRIGUEZ, SYG WALDHEIM MADE STATEMENT OF ABOUT 15 MINUTES. AFTER USUAL REMARKS OF COURTESY DIRECTED TOWARD ECLA SECRETARIAT AND ECUADORIAN GOVERNMENT WALDHEIM EMPHASIZED THE IMPORTANCE OF REGIONAL ECONOMIC COMMISSIONS (REC) NOT TAKING NARROW REGIONAL POINTS OF VIEW BUT EMPHASIZED REC' S ROLE IN INTERREGIONAL COOPERATION. UNCLASSIFIED

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HE CITED THE WORK OF ECLA IN THE AREAS OF THE INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY (IDS) AND REVIEW AND APPRAISAL (R/ A)

AS EXAMPLES OF TYPE INTERREGIONAL COOPERATION REQUIRED. REFERRING TO ECLA' S 1971 SURVEY OF LATIN AMERICA HE SPOKE OF MONETARY SYSTEM CRISIS AND SAID THAT THE GEOGRAPHIC AND DEMOGRAPHIC MAJORITY IN THE WORLD MUST BE INCLUDED IN MONETARY DECISIONS. HE PLEDGED ALL OUT UN SUPPORT TO LDC' S FOR THAT PARTICIPATION. HE MADE BRIEF REFERENCES TO THE ECLA AGENDA ITEMS ON ENVIRONMENT AND POPULATION. IN REFERENCE TO THE LATTER HE URGED LA COUNTRIES PARTICIPATION IN THE WORLD POPULATION CONFERENCE. WALDHEIM SAID THAT DETENTE PROSPECTS GAVE CAUSE FOR REAL OPTIMISM. HE WENT ON TO SAY THAT IF THESE PROSPECTS REALIZED UN COULD GO ON TO CONCENTRATE ON ELIMINATION POVERTY. HE SAID THAT LA, REPRESENTING A NEW CULTURE, PLAYED A KEY POSITION IN DEVELOPMENT EFFORTS. HE STATED THAT NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT EFFORTS SHOULD NOT CONSTITUTE AN OBSTACLE TO REGIONAL EFFORTS OR REGIONAL INTERGRATION.

3. MR. GUILLERMO MARCO DEL PONT OF PERU WHO HAD BEEN SELECTED TO SPEAK IN THE NAME OF MEMBER STATES, APPEARED IN MILITARY UNIFORM. HIS BRIEF STATEMENT FOCUSED ON R/ A. HE SAID THAT THE 25 TH ANNIVERSARY ECLA MEETING WAS BEING HELD " TO DETERMINE THE LA POSITION ON THE IDS". HIS STATEMENT ENDED WITH LAUDATORY REMARKS FOR PREBISCH AND EXECUTIVE SECRETARY IGLESIAS.

4. PRESIDENT RODRIGUEZ, WHO ALSO APPEARED IN MILITARY UNIFORM , OPENED 25- MINUTE STATEMENT WITH REMARK THAT ECLA REPRESENTED ONE OF THE MOST RELEVANT PARTS OF THE UN SYSTEM. HE WENT ON TO SAY THAT A NEW ERA HAD DAWNED IN WHICH IMPERIALISTIC VENTURES AND COERCION IN THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL AREAS WOULD NO LONGER BE TOLERATED. HE SAID THAT EXPLOITATION OF THE MASSES BY A FAVORED FEW, WHETHER ONE SPOKE IN NATIONAL OR GLOBAL TERMS, SHOULD BE CONSIDERED A THING OF THE PAST AND THAT WE SHOULD LOOK FORWARD TO THE INTEGRATION OF NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL SOCIETIES. ADDRESSING HIMSELF TO THE IDS, HE EMPHASIZED THE SOCIAL OBJECTIVES THEREIN AND SAID THAT THERE WAS URGENT NEED FOR QUALITATIVE CHANGE IN LA.
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HE SAID THAT MANY GOE POLICIES COINCIDED WITH ECLA PROPOSALS EMBODIED IN WORKING PAPERS. HE SPECIFICALLY MENTIONED PERMANENT SOVEREIGNTY OVER NATURAL RESOURCES, THE 200- MILE TERRITORIAL SEA LIMIT (ONLY REMARKS WHICH RECEIVED APPLAUSE DURING SPEECH), AND IMPORTANCE OF ECONOMIC INTEGRATION AND MADE PASSING REFERENCE TO ANDEAN GROUP. HE REMARKED THAT THERE HAD BEEN DISCOURAGING RESULTS IN ATTEMPTING IMPLEMENTATION SOME IDS GOALS: EQUITABLE

TRADE, BETTER TERMS OF TRADE, DISINTERESTED TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE, EQUITABLE PARTICIPATION IN INTERNATIONAL MONETARY ARRANGEMENTS AND COOPERATION ON INDUSTRIAL GOODS TRADE. IN CURIOUSLY OFFHANDED MANNER PRESIDENT RODRIGUEZ SUGGESTED THAT CHIEFS OF LDC STATES MEET TO DISCUSS WAYS TO FREE THEMSELVES FROM DEPENDENCY ON SUPER INDUSTRIALIZED STATES. HE EMPHASIZED THAT LA COUNTRIES MUST BE GIVEN RIGHT TO PARTICIPATE IN MULTILATERAL TRADE NEGOTIATIONS (MTN) SO THAT THEY COULD BREAK OUT OF THE CONSTRUCTIVE SYSTEM OF UNFAIR SYSTEMS OF TRADE AND MONETARY ARRANGEMENTS. HE ENDED HIS STATEMENT WITH REITERATION THAT " OVERDEVELOPED COUNTRIES" MUST RELINQUISH PRIVILEGES SO THAT THIRD WORLD COULD REALIZE THEIR OBJECTIVES OF MORALITY AND JUSTICE IN ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL AFFAIRS. HE FORMALLY WELCOMED ALL LATIN AMERICAN DELEGATION, INCLUDING CUBA TO ECUADOR. NO SPECIFIC COMMENT REGARDING THE US WAS MADE IN THE COURSE OF THE ENTIRE STATEMENT.

5. PEDRO AGUAYA CUBILLO, CHIEF OF THE ECUADORIAN DELEGATION WAS ELECTED CHAIRMAN. RAUL DESMARAS (ARGENTINA) AND PAUL GERIN- LAJOIE (CANADA) WERE ELECTED RESPECTIVELY AS FIRST AND SECOND VICE CHAIRMEN. LACARTE MURO, CHIEF OF THE URUGUAYAN DELEGATION WAS ELECTED RAPPORTEUR. ALL WERE

<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 02 APR 1999
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 23 MAR 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973QUITO01460
Document Source: ADS
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: n/a
Film Number: n/a
From: QUITO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730346/abqcdxmd.tel
Line Count: 134
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: n/a
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: shawdg
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 21 NOV 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <21-Nov-2001 by elbezejf>; APPROVED <30-Jan-2002 by shawdg>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: OPENING SESSION ECLA
TAGS: OCON, ECLA
To: STATE INFO SANTIAGO
USUN N Y
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005